TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1151 - SB 1292

March 16, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes any group of citizens to submit error reports to the State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission (STIMQC). Requires the STIMQC to respond to each error report within 30 days. The STIMQC's response shall be sent to the citizen group who made the complaint, the Senate Education Committee, and the House Education Instruction and Programs Committee for approval of the report. Citizen groups who disagree with the STIQMC response may appeal in writing to the Commission to receive a public hearing before a Joint Education Committee. Prohibits a textbook from being approved for use in the public schools until the error is corrected by the textbook publisher. Requires the Commission to send local education agencies (LEAs) notice of any errors and shall include specific details of the error and correction recommendations.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$4,600/Each One-Day Meeting

Assumptions:

- The error reports will be submitted during the new annual textbook review process as set forth in Tennessee Code Annotated Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 22, which became effective January 1, 2015.
- The number of error reports that will be submitted to the STIMQC is unknown.
- Error reports by citizen groups may also be submitted to local boards of education advisory teams.
- Preparation of an error reporting form will be done by the Department of Education without an increase in personnel or a reduction in its reversion to the General Fund.
- Depending on the timing of the error report, the STIMQC will hold a special hearing to form a written response to the error report. Based on information from the Department of Education, the increase in state expenditures for each one-day meeting is estimated to be \$4,608, consisting of \$1,425 for live-streaming of STIMQC meetings, \$100 for meeting materials, and \$3,083 for commission member per diem and other miscellaneous expenses.
- There is not a joint education committee. It is unclear if there will be expenditures associated with such a committee meeting.
- No increase in local expenditures to purchase new textbooks as a result of a textbook being approved during the normal review process and then removed from the list of approved books upon the outcome of an error report from a citizen group.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

/msg